Industrial Development Under Common Minimum Programme

†5179. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had given an assurance to the effect that hundred districts in the country are to be industrally developed under the Common Minimum Programme;

(b) whether no action has been taken in this regard;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are considering any time-bound scheme to implement such scheme under the Common Minimum Programme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) Under the National Programme of Rural Industrialisation (NPRI) announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for 1999-2000, 100 rural industrial clusters would be set up every year for 5 years.

(b) to (e) The programme is being implemented with the guidance and support of various central agencies namely Small Industries Development Organisaiton (SIDO), Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and State Government. Action has been initiated by various agencies during 1999-2000 to set up the clusters as under:—

Name of the Agency	Number of clusters
KVIC	50
NABARD	15
SIDB	25

Controversy on Tea Industry

5180. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item apprearing in The Economic Times, dated 9th April, 2000 under the caption, Controversy-hits tea industry;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, what if Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to ease the tension so that the plantation work in the tea gardens of Assam is not adversely affected by the activities of the terrorists and militants in the Brahmaputra and Barak Valleys?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Some cases of extortion of money from tea estates have come to the notice of the Govt.

The Government has taken various steps to bring law and order situation in Assam under control. These include inter alia, deployment of Army, Para-Military Forces and State Police for counter insurgency operations, declaration of major insurgent groups as unlawful associations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967 etc. Government has also given directions to the State Government of Assam to provide adequate security as well as take action against all disruptive elements. Review of security of tea industries is being done at state and district levels regularly.

The tea industry has been advised by the State Government to induct Assam Tea Protection Force in the tea gardens of Barak Valley.

Industrialisation in Uttar Pradesh

†5181. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of industries in Uttar Pradesh as compared to other States;

(b) the number of such cities in Uttar Pradesh where new economic reforms are not being implemented;

(c) whether Government have formulated any new policy to set up industries in the zero-industry areas of Uttar Pradesh on priority basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) The State-wise distribution of industrial units (in percentage terms) is given in the annexed statement *(see* below).

(b) Information on this is not centrally maintained.

(e) and (d) Under the liberalized econimic regime, it is the responsibility of the State Government to create an economic environment conducive to investment and growth of industry in the state. However, the Central Government

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.